

May 23, 2011

California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
ATTN: Statewide Congressional and State Senate Plan Submission  
1130 K Street, Suite 101  
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Commissioners,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit our plans for the redistricting of California Congressional and Senate districts. We appreciate the work the commission has done and want to recognize that it has been at times difficult. Thank you for your dedication to this complex, time consuming process.

These plans are community oriented with a regional structure. The plans focus on connectivity and access within each district. City and County boundaries have been maintained except where a conflict exists with a clear community of interest or where a split is necessary for population equality.

We have minimized unnecessary vote deferral in our Senate plan by adhering to the north to south numbering sequence adopted by the Supreme Court Special Masters in 1991.

The Congressional plan has a total population deviation of ten people, with the maximum deviation of six people. The Senate plan has a total deviation of 3,880 (.42%), and a maximum deviation of 1,966 (.21%).

We have taken care not to retrogress in the Section 5 protected counties. Districts which include Monterey, Merced, Yuba and Kings do not retrogress relative to the Spanish Surname voter registration or Latino share of Citizen Voting Age population from the current districts (CD 17, 18, 20; and SD 12, 16 and 18).

We believe the community of interest focus of these plans has resulted in districts in compliance with Section 2 of the VRA. None of the districts were drawn primarily to comply with Section 2, as they all have community based logic. And, we believe we have not failed to create any district whose formation would be compelled by Section 2 of the federal Voting Rights Act or the California Constitution.

We defined communities of interest by a number of characteristics, including regional Or geographic (Coastal districts, Valley districts, Mountains), public testimony, socio-economic and demographic characteristics, transportation and access (freeways and highways), neighborhoods, and City and County boundaries. We have attached a more detailed definition of communities with our maps and data tables. We have also included computer readable block equivalency files for our plans.

These are fair and equitable plans which pass legal muster. We believe these plans provide equal opportunity to participate in the governance of our great state.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,



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Executive Director  
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510.501.6837

Representing and Signed for the following names:

Rebeca Barron, Oakland  
Louie Briones, Oakland  
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Jay B. Lake, Los Angeles  
Marco Polo Cortes, San Diego  
Austin Lee, Sacramento  
Ernesto Vasquez, Laguna Beach  
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Noel Gallo, Oakland  
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Lydia de los Rios, Pomona  
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